

Lewis and Clark County Mental Health Local Advisory Council
Pure View Conference Room
Tuesday, November 13, 2018, 11:30 a.m.

Mission Statement: The purpose of the LAC is to assist in the improvement of Lewis and Clark County public mental health services and to review and make recommendations about Lewis and Clark County's public mental health services to the Lewis and Clark County Commissioners, as well as provide input and recommendations to the State of Montana's Mental Health Oversight Advisory Council (MHOAC) and the State of Montana's Service Area Authority (SAA) serving the community.

Minutes

1. Call to Order and Reading of the Mission Statement

Jill Steeley called the meeting to order and led introductions throughout the room.

John Wilkinson read the Mission Statement.

Members in Attendance: Jill Steeley (Chair), Matt Furlong (Vice Chair), John Wilkinson (Past Chair), Drenda Niemann, Ray Roberts, Brian Coplin, Cory Bailey, David Roberts, and Gary Mihelish.

Guests in Attendance: Alison Munson, Brandy Vail, Del Schubring, and Bob Stewart.

Staff in Attendance: Jocelyn Olsen

2. Approval of Meeting Minutes Postponed

There was not a quorum so the October 2, 2018 minutes will be reviewed via email or at the next general LAC meeting on December 4, 2018.

3. Membership Updates

Three more applications are due for appointment by the Board of County Commissioners on November 20th. There are still four family member/consumer positions to fill. The Steering Committee is working on filling the remaining two Lewis and Clark County School representative positions.

ACTION: Jocelyn Olsen will email the board application to all LAC Members and Interested Parties.

4. Updates From Other Mental Health Groups

a. Service Area Authority (SAA)

Matt Furlong explained that the entirety of the SAA Congress (Eastern, Western, and Central SAA) convened last month and identified three main legislative priorities: Medicaid expansion, mental health crisis support and response, and increasing funding for more peer support. The SAA Congress also put out another "ask" to the LACs to consider hosting legislative meetings to focus on mental health issues and applying for funding from the SAA to complete such.

b. Mental Health Oversight Advisory Council

There were no members from the MHOAC to provide an update so members were reminded of the update given by Andy Hunthausen at the October LAC meeting.

c. Lewis and Clark County Suicide Prevention

Drenda Niemann shared that the full-time Suicide Prevention Coordinator position will be posted soon as this was written in to the SAMHSA Mental Health Awareness Training grant.

Alison Munson provided an update on 2-1-1 explaining that they are continuing to update resources in the database, have already sent out forms to 350 providers currently in the system, and will further disperse the form to ensure all service providers are represented. Support groups will also be included in 2-1-1 with necessary information collected through the leader of the group or another point of contact.

Lewis and Clark County 2-1-1 will adopt the sustainability plan currently used in Billings while adding that all resources be military family friendly. In this plan, there will be a designated staff member who will dedicate two hours per month to updating the 2-1-1 database. Workers at the call center will also be required to complete military competence training to ensure cultural sensitivity for veterans and active members.

Drenda explained that the Man Therapy movement is continuing and there is a calendar of Man Therapy events and trainings on the Suicide Prevention website.

The next Suicide Prevention meeting is scheduled for next Wednesday but may likely be cancelled due to the Thanksgiving holiday.

ACTION: Jocelyn Olsen will disperse 2-1-1 forms to all on the LAC mailing list.

d. Law Enforcement Mental Health Committee

Cory Bailey shared that St. Peter's Hospital had 145 ER visits last month from individuals whose chief complaint was related to mental health. This is consistent with last year's numbers. St. Peter's is also working on hiring more individuals to provide peer support for these individuals.

Brandy Vail provided an update on Journey Home policies. They are working with Urgent Care North and the VA to help complete necessary lab work which would then allow individuals to be directly admitted to Journey Home as opposed to having contact with police, then being transferred to St. Peter's hospital for an intake, then transferred again to Journey Home to complete another intake (the current process). Brandy is also working with Laura Erikson at the County to help the Crisis Response Team (CRT) to become mobile again. There will be a meeting with the Sheriff's Department and Helena Police Department to determine when the CRT will be called to a certain location.

5. Legislative Priorities

Jill Steeley presented on the expectations the LAC has about hosting a lunch or dinner in mid-December to present legislative priorities identified by the LAC. Matt Furlong explored the idea of having a buffet at the Capitol building as it may be the most convenient. Legislators will be invited to the event, and information will be provided to them regarding legislative priorities and contact information for questions later on. To start, Jess Hegstrom (absent) put together a list of potential priorities for the LAC to explore and add to. Individuals who stated they would help with this project are: Alison Munson, Brian Coplin, John Wilkinson, and Jill Steeley.

Brian Coplin mentioned that he has been working with a group called Our Revolution Helena and he may be able to recruit some individuals from this group to help with the legislative priorities project.

Drenda Niemann shared that Montana Medical Association is having a legislative forum on December 3rd.

6. Workgroup Reports

a. One – Effectiveness, Accessibility, Quality of Services

John Wilkinson stated that the next meeting will be November 27th. The focus of this workgroup has been to support the development of the 2-1-1 initiative and identify barriers and bottlenecks in services. The also aim to educate more providers on other services available and get more resources on the CONNECT system. The group will also look at defining data points by looking at what to ask consumers and providers as well as how to ask.

b. Two – Community Outreach

An update was already provided, see above.

c. Three – Gaps in Services

There are working on the three sections of the Mayor's Challenge. The first section is crisis intercept mapping which has no updates. The second section is 2-1-1 which will hold a meeting on November 20th with the VA. The third section is peer support which has been aiming to get more VA resources involved, especially through Volunteers of America. Willis Cruse House cannot currently participate.

d. Criminal Justice Services Workgroup

The job description for the new Behavioral Health Coordinator position through this department has been approved by Human Resources and will be posted the week of Thanksgiving, for a total of three weeks.

7. Public Comment

Journey Home is having their fundraisers on November 19th with a dinner event at Buffalo Wild Wings and a showing of Suicide: The Ripple Effect at the Myrna Loy. An anonymous donor bought out the theater so interested individuals can reserve a ticket through Journey Home or Our Place.

NAMI Helena is having their Beautiful Minds dinner at the Colonial Hotel on December 9th. Anyone is welcome.

8. Next Meeting

December 4, 2018

9. Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at 12:27pm.